WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman Kevin McCarthy issued the following statement after the U.S. Department of Labor announced unemployment for December 2009 still at a double-digit rate of 10%:

"Today's disappointing unemployment report reiterates the continuing disconnect between Washington and our communities throughout America. Close to three million Americans have lost their jobs since the stimulus was signed into law almost a year ago – yet, Washington continues with the same unacceptable status quo.

"America's middle-class families and small businesses are continuing to struggle, while Washington continues to pile on job-killing policies, like a permanent bailout, credit-killing regulations, a risky trillion dollar health care bill, and a national energy tax. These policies create more troubling uncertainty as the rest of America yearns to restart our economic engine.

"That is why my colleagues have continually offered smarter solutions that focus on producing a job-creating environment: more confidence and more jobs with less regulation and less Washington spending. It is time for Washington to wake up."

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